

Rpt #4
79

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

Trends and Developments, WDC, Week ending: 24 May 1968

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

1. The mass demonstration originally planned for 30 May has been re-scheduled for 19 June 1968 and will be known as Solidarity Day. The rally was re-scheduled reportedly because the earlier date would have made activities after the rally anti-climatic.

SOURCE: Various overt sources

AUTHENTICATION: Probably reliable

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2. Anti-war groups in WDC are already mobilizing to coordinate anti-war groups coming to WDC for Solidarity Day.

SOURCE: FBI cable 22 May 1968

AUTHENTICATION: FBI sources who have provided reliable information in the past.

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Poor People's University

3. Organizers of the Poor People's Campaign intend to establish a Poor People's University in the Washington, D. C. area. Last week it was reported that supporters of the Program had met with representatives of the Consortium of five area universities (American, Catholic, Georgetown, George Washington and Howard) in order to obtain the use of classrooms, dormitories and other facilities on their campuses.

On Tuesday, 21 May, the five universities denied the use of their classrooms and dormitories for the Poor People's University. However, American University, in a shift in its policy, announced

that it will provide 17 classrooms from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily from 29 May to 16 June in the 1900 block of F Street N.W. Brady TYSON, the American University coordinator for the project, also announced that AU would make office space, telephones and office equipment available to the Poor People's University Program in the 2000 block of G Street N.W.

George Washington University announced this week that it would sponsor a week-long "workshop on poverty" in June. At the same time, George Washington Assistant Vice President, John CANTINI, was supplementing its 20-man security staff by hiring ten guards from the Wackenhut Corporation for an indeterminate period. This was in anticipation of possible outside interference with the orderly operation of the University when several thousand college students are expected to arrive in Washington for the Poor People's University. George Washington's "workshop on poverty" will run from 3 June through 7 June featuring lectures and discussions on poverty, race, housing, employment, economics and social organization.

Reacting to Georgetown University's refusal to provide classrooms and facilities to the Poor People's University, 20 Georgetown University students held a five-hour Thursday sit-in outside the office of the Georgetown President. The students left, however, after the presidents of the College and East Campus Student Councils promised to arrange a meeting on Friday between the protesters and President Rev. Gerard CAMPBELL.

While Georgetown, as of Thursday, was not providing facilities for the Poor People's University, it did announce that it would make its athletic fields available to Resurrection City children between the ages of 6 and 12. The University apparently will try to provide transportation to its fields each morning between 31 May and the beginning of its summer session on 17 June.

SOURCE: Overt sources

AUTHENTICATION: Probably reliable

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Militant Black Power Activities

4. Lance (Sweet Willy) WATSON and a group of his Memphis "Invaders" attempted on Monday to hold an assembly at the Ballou High School in Anacostia and were refused.

Sweet Willy and his group returned to Anacostia High School on Wednesday and arranged to speak to a social sciences class on the morning of 23 May.

Some members of Lance WATSON'S group, the Invaders, were credited with starting the violence in the Memphis Garbage Strike.

SOURCE: Overt sources and FBI cables dated 22 May and 23 May 1968.

AUTHENTICATION: Reliable

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5. A number of "trouble makers" including two bus loads of Blackstone Rangers, a Negro Youth Gang from Chicago, Illinois, were among those who left Resurrection City on 21 May 1968.

SOURCE: FBI cable dated 22 May 1968

AUTHENTICATION: Unknown

COMMENT: It is not known where the Blackstone Rangers and other trouble makers were going when they left Resurrection City.

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Potential Violence

6. Stokely CARMICHAEL is recently reported to have said to a Negro cab driver, "On the day of the big march, 19 June 1968, I will burn this City down."

SOURCE: Special Information Report, 24 May 1968

AUTHENTICATION: Reliable source

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